Pickens Middle School
140 Torch Lane
Pickens, SC 29671

South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

Grades:	6-8 Middle	**Principal:**	Reggia Stapleton
Enrollment:	682 students	**Superintendent:**	Dr. Daniel B. Merck
School Phone:	864-397-4100	**Board Chair:**	Dr. Brian Swords
School Website:	http://www.pickens.k12.sc.us/pms		

Profile of the SC Graduate

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences*

World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by …

Pickens Middle School is helping its students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ensuring that every child is adequately challenged and equipped to meet or exceed the SCCCR standards and is college- and career-ready upon graduation.

SCCCR standards preparation of Pickens Middle School students is addressed in all grades by rigorous instruction and the infusion of project-based learning in the four core academic classes. Collaboration, communication, organization, creativity and evaluation processes are required as students defend their final products. Students are challenged creatively in our fine arts department through art, strings, band, and chorus classes. Art students are required to design and create their own unique pieces through use of recycled materials-cardboard, plastic, paper, and CDs. Music students perform and conduct musical pieces, some of which are their own original pieces.

Pickens Middle School fosters technology use and development among all students and teachers. Students take keyboarding and computer applications classes and are allowed to use their own electronic devices in class for educational purposes. Gateway to Technology classes develops technology skills of students through hands-on, project based, STEM curriculum which challenges students to apply knowledge to solve real world problems.

Every Pickens Middle School teacher is committed to a school-wide focus on literacy through the development of reading and writing skills. Every student is engaged in dissecting and interpreting informational text. Each week, all teachers teach their students appropriate writing styles for their grade levels and their student complete timed writings activities.

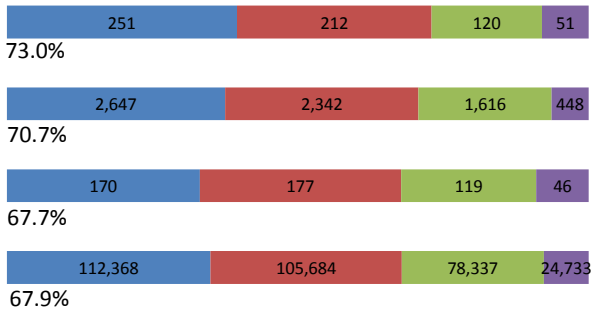
Each day, soft skills are incorporated and emphasized in the classroom and in before and after school activities. Pickens Middle School students are invited and encouraged to participate in numerous clubs, organizations and activities which develop and support these skills.

Pickens Middle School believes that success is measured one student at a time. While rigor and relevance are necessary to prepare our students for the future, we believe that relationship- building is paramount. These relationships include the student, the parents, and the community. We believe that working together, we will provide the support our students need to be successful. We are proud of the tradition of high expectations and

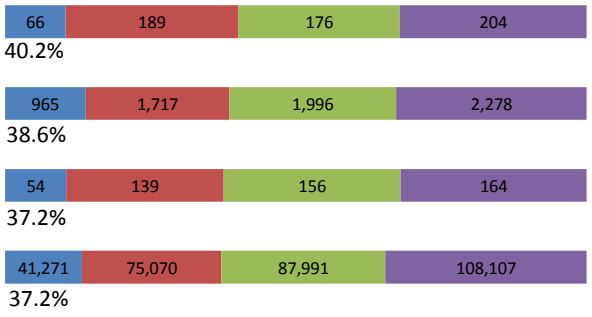
KNOWLEDGE

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing

ENGLISH

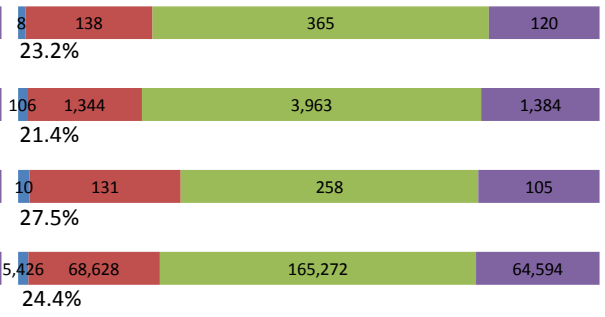


READING

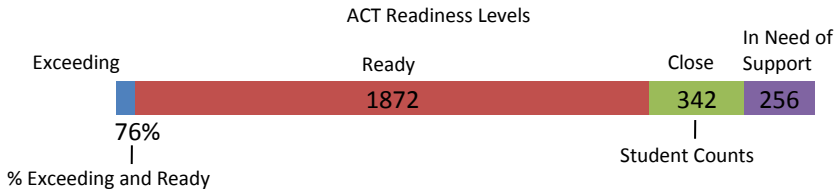


MATHEMATICS

WRITING



Results for groups with 4 or fewer students are not shown

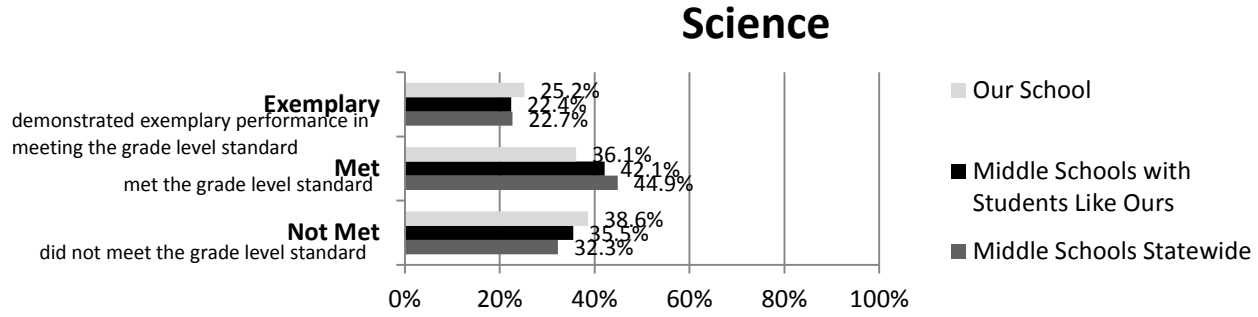


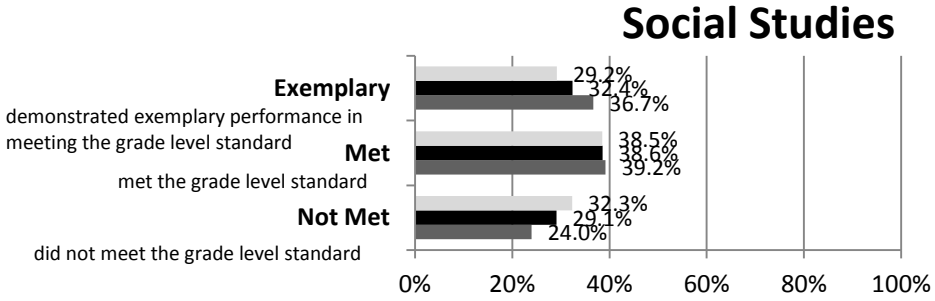
Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable | N/AV-Not Available | N/C-Not Collected | N/R-Not Reported | I/S-Insufficient Sample

KNOWLEDGE

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.





Science SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
51.1	66.7	64.3

Social Studies SCPASS		
Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level		
6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
71.4	62.2	70.0

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary	**"Exemplary"**: student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	**"Met"**: student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	**"Not Met"**: student did not meet the grade level standard.

End of Course Tests		
Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	**Our School**	**Middle Schools with Students Like Ours**
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0	96.5
English 1	98.9	93.7
Biology 1	N/A	75.9
US History and the Constitution	N/A	43.8
All Subjects	99.3	94.7

Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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OPPORTUNITIES

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with students like ours
Students (n = 682)			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	71.8	Down from 74.3%	N/A
Percent of students (grade 7 & 8) enrolled in HS credit courses	91.4	Up from 77.6%	23.1
Attendance Rate	94.7	Down from 95.3%	95.2
With disabilities	16.1	Down from 17.2%	13.5
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4	Up from 0.0%	0.8
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	24.3	Up from 23.5%	20.5
Percentage of students retained	0.7	Down from 1.9%	0.6
Annual dropout rate	0.2	No change	0.0
Teachers (n = 47)			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	80.9	Up from 73.3%	59.2
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	89.4	Down from 91.1%	78.9
Teachers returning from previous year	84.7	Up from 84.2%	86.7
Teacher attendance rate	94.0	Down from 95.7%	94.7
Average teacher salary*	$49,904	Down 1.1%	$47,295
Professional development days / teacher	12.8 days	Up from 11.7 days	11.3 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	0.6
School			
Principal's years at school	1.0	Up from 0.0%	5.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	26.5 to 1	Up from 26.2 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.4	Down from 89.9%	88.6
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0	Up from 88.0%	99.6
Character development program	Good	No change	Good
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	17.0	N/A	15.1
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	13.3	N/A	21.5
Bandwidth capacity per student	<25 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.4	N/C	0.9
District-issued technology devices per teacher	1.2	N/C	1.9
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.3	Down from 7.0%	2.8
Dollars spent per pupil**	$8,253	Down 53.4%	$7,838
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	58.9	Up from 58.7%	61.8
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	60.0	Up from 59.0%	62.9

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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OPPORTUNITIES

Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents

Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	44	212	135
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0	74.0	74.8
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0	75.2	73.0
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	97.8	86.6	51.1

* Only students at the highest middle school grade and their parents were included.

State Ratings History of School

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2014	Average	Average
2013	Average	Below Average
2012	Average	Average

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

Additional Resources

SC State Content Standards
Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards
2014-15 Accountability Manual
Report Card Data Files
ESEA Data Files

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